

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THESSA 00147 251432Z

51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 OMB-01 OPR-01 CU-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /060 W

----- 035769

P 251030Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2264

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THESSALONIKI 0147

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MILI, GR

SUBJECT: LOCAL REACTION TO REPORTED MILITARY CONSPIRACY

1. FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT LATE FEB 24 OF ATTEMPTED ARMY COUP, THESSALONIKI CALM AND POPULACE APPARENTLY REASSURED BY GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS. NO UNUSUAL MILITARY PRESENCE NOTED IN CITY AND "C" ARMY CORPS AREA APPEARS NORMAL.

2. THESSALONIKI PAPERS OF FEB 25 FRONTPAGE ANNOUNCEMENT OF MILITARY CONSPIRACY AND STATEMENT PREVIOUS EVENING BY DEF MIN AVEROFF THAT SITUATION UNDER COMPLETE CONTROL. ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS HERE, CENTER OF CONSPIRACY WAS "B" ARMY CORPS HEADQUARTERS IN VERIA. ALSO ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED WERE OFFICER FACTIONS AT THESSALONIKI, POLYKASTRON, KASTORIA, KOZANI, AND SERRES. ONLY NORTHERN GREEK OFFICERS MENTIONED BY NAME IN PRESS AND REPORTEDLY ARRESTED ARE LT. COL. IOANNIS STIAKAKIS IN THESSALONIKI AND MAJ ATHANASIOS PERDIKIS IN AMYNDEON. (WE UNDERSTAND FROM RELIABLE SOURCES THAT BOTH ARE CONSIDERED LOUD-MOUTH, "QADAAFI-TYPES", WITH A "SOCIALIST" BENT.) LOCAL PRESS FEB. 25 REPORTS EARLIER DECISION OF FIRST
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PAGE 02 THESSA 00147 251432Z

MILITARY COUNCIL TO CAS IER PERDIKIS.

3. COMMENT:

ATTEMPT HAS SO FAR PROVOKED LITTLE APPARENT
LOCAL REACTION AND NO EDITORIAL COMMENT HERE. AREA
RESIDENTS REPORT TANK OR ARMORED MOVEMENTS, PERHAPS
RELATED TO EPISODE, NEAR THESSALONIKI WATERFRONT DURING
NIGHT OF FEB 22 - 23. LOCAL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
HAVE SCHEDULED DEMONSTRATION FOR NOON TODAY IN CENTER
CITY TO PROTEST CONSPIRACY AND DEMAND FURTHER PURGE
OF JUNTIST OFFICER.
BRENNEN

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Message Attributes

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